

# PORT VALE

· R · E · V · I · E · W ·

60p

Season  
1988/89

Issue No. 7

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Barclays League - Division Three

v. **BOLTON WANDERERS**

Saturday, 15th October, 1988

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# IT'S THE BOSS

**I**N a few days of mixed fortunes we had the joy of returning to the top of the Third Division, then the disappointment of going out of the Littlewoods Cup Competition.

What is important now is that we do not allow the latter to affect our league ambitions. One bad result must not get us down and the players must bounce back this afternoon.

October looked a decidedly tricky month on the fixture list but we did well to draw a thriller at Wolves, beat Huddersfield and then bring home the points from Wigan.

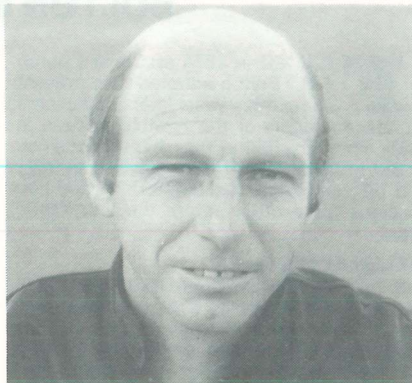
Now we have to tackle Bolton, promoted last season and going well, before games against Blackpool (away), Sheffield United (home) and Brentford (away) before the month is out.

It was pleasing to win at Wigan considering the previous eight visits to Springfield Park had all resulted in defeat. It was the sort of battle we expected in the first half, but we then produced some good football and scored two well-taken goals for a deserved victory.

The following of Vale fans was fantastic and it seemed we had more there than Wigan. However, it was disturbing for me to subsequently receive a couple of letters referring to bad language from a section of our supporters.

It is not particularly pleasant when women and children are in earshot to hear fans' enthusiasm get the better of them by stooping to foul or abusive language. It discredits the name of good supporters and leaves a sour taste in the mouth.

Some time ago I believe it was Brian Clough, similiary concerned at the foul-mouthed antics of the Forest fans, who



introduced a sign at the City ground to the effect of..."Gentlemen, no bad language, please." I hope I will not be forced to consider doing something on the same lines.

Despite a long trek and miserable weather we still had a good following at Ipswich this week but, sadly, there was little for the fans to cheer.

It was no disgrace to lose to a quality Second Division side but I was a little disappointed with the result. We did not match our form of the first leg and only for a spell in the second half did we really threaten.

Conditions were awful and played a part in helping Ipswich erase our lead in the first half with what I consider to be something of a fluke goal.

After their second goal early in the second half we had our best period, pushing three men into attack. Had we scored it might just have been a different story but Dalian Atkinson struck with a free-kick 'special' to seal our fate.

JOHN RUDGE

## FRONT COVER PHOTO:

Ray Walker beats off the challenge of John Wark of Ipswich.

(Photo by the Staffordshire Sentinel)



## VALE PARK WELCOMES BOLTON WANDERERS

**F**ORMED in 1874 as Christ Church F.C., Bolton adopted their present name three years later and became founder members of the Football League in 1888. They finished in their highest position of 3rd in 1892, which they equalled in 1921 and 1925 and fluctuated between the top two divisions quite often before the first World War.

### WEMBLEY WINNERS

In 1923 Bolton defeated West Ham 2-0 in the very first Wembley F.A. Cup Final with David Jack scoring the historic first goal and they went on to take the trophy in 1926 and 1929 as well, without conceding a goal in any of the finals. They began their longest spell in Division One, 29 years, in 1935 with the highlight being two further F.A. Cup Final appearances, losing the Stanley Matthews final 4-3 to Blackpool in 1953 and defeating Manchester United 2-0 in 1958 when Nat Lofthouse scored twice.

They were relegated to Division 3 for the first time in 1971, bouncing back to take the title two years later and they went on to win the Second Division championship for the second time in their history in 1978. Unfortunately their stay in the top flight lasted only two years and the club then began a slide which saw them fall into Division Four in 1987 after losing to Aldershot in the play-offs.

### RECENT FORM

They won promotion at the first attempt last season after finishing in third place and have begun this season in fine style chasing a further promotion, currently occupying fourth place.

At home they have a solid record of 3 wins and 2 draws whilst away they have won one, 3-0 at Aldershot, drawn one, 1-1 at Reading and lost twice, 2-0 at Southend and 1-0 at Swansea. In the first round of the Littlewoods Cup they were eliminated 3-2 on aggregate by Chester City.

Manager  
Phil Neal



### CURRENT SQUAD

Manager **PHIL NEAL** has been in charge since December, 1985 after an illustrious playing career with Liverpool during which time he won virtually every honour in the game and also gained 50 England caps.

Experienced goalkeeper **DAVID FELGATE** returned to Bolton for his third spell in February, 1987 after having also played for Rochdale, Crewe, Cardiff, Lincoln and Grimsby Town.

In defence they have **PHIL BROWN**, a £17,000 close season signing from Halifax after over 200 appearances for his home town club of Hartlepool. **GLENN KEELEY**, the 34 years old former Blackburn and Newcastle defender signed last month from Oldham to replace broken leg victim **MARK CAME**. **MARK WINSTANLEY** who rose through the club's youth ranks to make his debut in 1986. **DEAN CROMBIE** who began his career at Lincoln and joined Bolton in 1987 after over 350 appearances for Grimsby, and **BARRY COWDRILL** the former West Brom defender who arrived at Burnden Park on a free transfer during the summer.

The midfield roles are chosen from **ROBBIE SAVAGE**, the former Stoke player who cost £30,000 from Bradford City in September, 1987 after spells with Bournemouth and Wrexham. **GARY HENSHAW** signed from Grimsby Town at the beginning of last season. **STEVE THOMPSON** the current leading scorer with 4 goals who has topped 200 league appearances since his debut in November, 1982. Utility player **JULIAN DARBY**, the only Bolton born player in the squad who made his debut in the 1985-86 season and **NICKY BROOKMAN** a young prospect who made his debut in April, 1987.

### STRIKE FORCE

The players chiefly responsible for the goalscoring are chosen from burly **TREVOR MORGAN**, the former Bournemouth, Mansfield, Exeter, Bristol Rovers and Bristol City striker who joined Bolton in 1987, **IAN STEVENS**, a highly rated youngster who was signed from Stockport at the beginning of last season and **JOHN THOMAS**, last season's leading scorer with 22 league goals who has also plied his trade with Tranmere, Halifax, Chester, Lincoln and Preston.



# PORT VALE

## · R · E · V · I · E · W ·

### BOLTON WANDERERS F.C. - SEASON 1988/89



**BACK ROW** (left to right): Ian Callaghan, Gary Henshaw, Paul Hughes, David Felgate, Julian Darby, Ian Stevens, Chris O'Brien. **MIDDLE ROW**: Phil Neal (Manager), Steve Carroll (Youth Coach), Nicky Brookman, Gary Brown, Stuart Storer, Trevor Morgan, Dave McKearnly, Bob Savage, Jeff Chandler, Mick Brown (Coach), Phil Stock (Physio). **FRONT ROW**: John Thomas, Steve Elliott, Phil Brown, Mark Came, Mark Winstanley, Dean Crombie, Barry Cowdrill, Steve Thompson.

## Through the Years - v. BOLTON

	P	W	D	L	F	A
Division 2 .....	10	0	1	9	5	28
Division 3 .....	8	0	3	5	5	16
F.A. Cup .....	1	0	0	1	0	3
	19	0	4	15	10	47

As can be seen from the above figures, our record against Bolton is none too healthy and in fact they are the only team currently in the Football League whom we have never defeated.

The nearest we came to a victory was in April, 1973 when a crowd of 14,168 saw a Brian Horton penalty and a John Woodward header put us 2-0 ahead, only for Bolton to pull back to 2-2 with their equaliser coming deep into injury time.

Bolton have only failed to score once against the Vale, a goalless draw at the

Old Recreation Ground in April 1934. At Burnden Park we have lost all ten of our visits without any single goal defeats and have only scored there once, when a player named Horrocks was on the mark in April, 1905 in our 3-1 demise.

#### BIGGEST VICTORY:

Hopefully this space will no longer be blank after today!

#### BIGGEST DEFEAT:

Bolton W. 5 Port Vale 0. Division 2  
2nd January 1900  
and 2nd January 1904

#### LAST TIME THEY MET

14th February, 1987  
Port Vale 1 (Bowden)  
Bolton W. 1 (Elliott)

Att. 3,628

20th September, 1986  
Bolton W. 3 (Caldwell, Elliott, Joyce)  
Port Vale 0

Att. 4,872

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Look for **YOUR** name and membership number on our Electronic Scoreboard! If you've been lucky call and see us at the Promotions Office after the game. Ask Miss Port Vale for a membership form and join **TODAY**.

**REMINDER** — the next 'V.V.' Committee meeting will be held on Monday, 17th October at 7.30 p.m. in the Sponsors' Suite.

\* \* \* \* \*



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## THE YOUNG ONES

### CENTRAL LEAGUE

On the 28th September our reserve side romped to a 4-0 home win over Doncaster Rovers in which we reached top form during the first half before easing up when the game was won. The goalscorers were Steve Harper, Kevin Finney, Steve Davies and an Andy Porter penalty.

Vale team: Wood, Llewellyn, Shepherd, Burrows, Simpson, Finney, Harper, Porter, Davies, Lomax, Rafferty. Subs: Kidd for Rafferty, Dawson for Davies.

A week later we lost our unbeaten record at the sixth attempt in going down 3-2 at Wigan. A very competitive first half saw Steve Davies put us in front but Wigan hit back with three in 20 minutes to take command. Jason Dawson then pulled a goal back with a brilliant strike and despite a few frantic scrambles we could not force the equaliser.

Vale team: Mulliner, Llewellyn, Booth, Simpson, Hazell, Shepherd, Harper, Porter, Davies, Lomax, Rafferty. Subs: Dawson for Harper, B. Mills for Rafferty.

### MIDLAND PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE

Two weeks ago our A team gained a satisfying 3-2 home victory over Walsall at Keele. Jason Dawson gave us an interval lead when he hammered home the rebound

after a Brian Mills shot was blocked, but Walsall countered with two quick goals to take the lead themselves.

The first came after one of our own free-kicks broke down in the Walsall half and then a bad header from Micky Burrows led to the second. Mick soon made up for it though, with a cracking shot for our equaliser after David Lowe had flicked on a corner.

The winner came when a long ball over the top saw Jason Dawson guide the ball away from the 'keeper with his right foot. Overall we could have won by a clearer margin but missed chances again let us down.

Vale team: Mulliner, Llewellyn, Kidd, Lowe, Burrows, Booth, Owen, Shepherd, Dawson, B. Mills, Leech. Subs: Knight for Leech, Moore for Owen.

### STAFFS COUNTY LEAGUE

The Port Vale 'B' team drew 0-0 away to Meir KA on 1st October in a game that proved to be a perfect stalemate as both sides cancelled each other out.

Vale team: Mulliner, Bennett, Bedser, Slater, Heath, Gatwood, Moore, Knitter, Knight, Johnston, Myatt. Subs: Rushton and Edwards.

Last week we won 2-0 at H. & R. Johnsons with Goals by Johnston and Heath.



### YTS PROFILE

*Name:* Steven Knitter

*Position:* Midfield

*Status:* 2nd year YTS

*Birthplace:* Newcastle-under-Lyme

*Date of Birth:* 2nd October, 1970

*School:* Moorside High, Werrington

*Height:* 5ft. 10ins.

*Favourite player:* Vinny Jones

*Favourite other team:* Manchester United

*Favourite food:* Chicken and chips

*Favourite TV Programme:* Neighbours.

*Misc. Likes:* Fishing, Sunday dinner

*Misc. Dislikes:* Smoking

*Favourite Actor:* Don Johnson

*Favourite Actress:* Lesley Ash

*Ambition:* To become a professional footballer

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Ron Futcher goes close v. Ipswich



The scoreboard says it all.

# VALE ON FILM

*Photos by courtesy of  
The Staffordshire  
Sentinel*



Ray Walker makes it 6-1 v. Cardiff



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MON 26th Sept	IPSWICH (2nd Rd. Littlewoods Cup)	K.F.M. (Precision Sheet Metal) Ltd., Hot Lane Industrial Estate, Florida Close, Burslem, S-o-T.
MON 3rd Oct	HUDDERSFIELD	Mark Stanyer/Sneyd Carpets, 412 Sneyd Street, Sneyd Green. Tel. 272037
SAT 15th Oct	BOLTON	B.B.C. Radio Stoke, 94.6 Fm Stereo 200/1503kHz MW. Tel. 208080
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MON 2nd Jan	NOTTS COUNTY	John Forrester, Milton, Stoke-on-Trent
SAT 7th Jan	BRISTOL ROVERS (F.A. Cup 3)	Airport Service Station, Uttoxeter Rd., Meir, S.O.T. Tel. 313060
SAT 21st Jan	BURY	H. Brown & Son, Potato Merchants, Hanley. S.O.T. Tel. 22760
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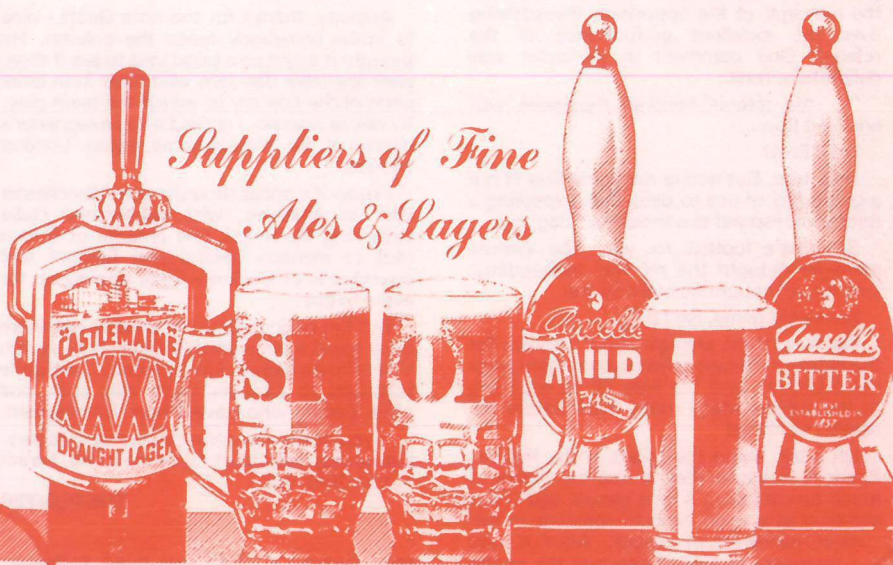


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# WISE MEN SAY..

**I** SN'T it strange how the same football match can inspire such a wide variety of different opinions?

Take the Wolves game, for instance.

'We wuz robbed' appeared to be the general consensus of the travelling Valeites as they patiently waited for the gates to open after the final whistle.

Not surprisingly, the two incidents provoking most discussion both resulted in goals.

Firstly, the home team were awarded a penalty for a foul on a player who was arguably yards offside when he first picked up the through ball - and I for one wasn't totally convinced that the player was inside the area when upended.

Then, just as we all thought Vale had managed to hang on, the referee managed to remain totally oblivious to a linesman furiously waving his flag in the air for offside. He was possibly the only person in the ground who didn't see the raised flag and, as a direct result of his allowing play to continue, Wolves nicked the equaliser.

It is hardly surprising that we all felt a little aggrieved.

So, can you imagine my surprise when I get into the car, switch on the radio and hear the manager of the opposition rhapsodising over the excellent performance of the referee. One comment in particular was delightfully ironic:

"... the referee handled the game well and let it flow..."

Let it flow!

How true. But letting the game flow is not a great deal of use to defenders expecting a referee to respond to a linesman's flag, is it.

So, that's football for you. The Wolves manager thought the ref was tremendous. And we all thought he had a stinker.

Funny old game, isn't it.

Anyway, that's enough about referees for the moment. Simply talking about them gives me heartburn and I'm sure I'll be returning to the subject many more times before the season's finished.

Let's talk about the toilets in the Railway Paddock because they're still the cause of much amusement. A few games ago I was standing as you do, next to someone in this most hallowed of places. After a few moments he looked down at the gently lapping waters around his feet, sighed philosophically and said:

"I don't know. They've mended the ceiling. They've painted the walls. They've fixed the floor. But the drains are still flippin blocked..."

Naturally he used a far more colourful expletive than 'flippin', but you didn't seriously expect me to put that down here did you?

Incidentally, I take back what I said in a previous article about the fans forming well mannered orderly queues for the toilets. I'm afraid its back to the good old frenzied stampede for spaces again. I said at the time it wouldn't last.

And, just out of interest, can anybody tell me why I'm always the only person who wants to get out of the toilet when everybody else is piling through the doorway? strange that.

Better change the subject again lest people begin to think I've got some perverse fixation with the Vale toilets.

A short while ago, I asked people to drop me a line if they wanted to comment on anything I had said in the articles.

That article appeared on a Saturday. On the Sunday a fellow Valeite popped a note through my door. Nothing too unusual in that you might say - if it wasn't for the fact that I live in Birmingham and this fellow Valeite lived just up the road!

Small world isn't it.

Anyway, thanks for the note Geoff - nice to know somebody reads the column. He thought it might be a good idea to see if there were any other Vale fans who travel from other parts of the country to watch the team play. By way of example, I noticed a home supporter's banner at the Wolves game saying 'London Wolves.'

I know it's not as though we're Manchester Utd. or anything, with supporters' clubs stretching the length and breadth of Britain (not to mention Ireland and Europe) and coachloads of Cockney Reds turning up for every fixture.

But I'm curious to see if anyone out there does travel a considerable distance to watch Vale's home games. I must admit, I was quite surprised to discover there was even one other person who travels from Birmingham.

If you think you come from this category, please drop me a line or give me a ring. I want to hear from you.

THE PUNTER

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**SIMON  
MILLS**

**PORT VALE**  
· R · E · V · I · E · W ·

**B**ORN in Sheffield, on 16th August, 1964.

A great passer of the ball with excellent vision, he was originally signed as a midfielder player but this season has stepped into the breach as emergency full back with wonderful success.

He began his career by turning professional with Sheffield Wednesday in July, 1982, making his first team bow as a substitute in the 5-4 home win over Charlton in January, 1983 with his full debut coming three weeks later in an F.A. Cup replay victory over Southend. Towards the end of that season he appeared 3 times for England Youth in which was one of his team mates was a certain Paul Atkinson, then with Sunderland.

### MOVE TO YORK

Simon was unable to break into the first team at Hillsborough and moved on to York City in June, 1985, with his full debut coming two months later in a 4-1 home win over Wigan, a game in which Gary Ford scored twice. He scored his first goal in a 1-1 draw at Newport and went on to make 35 league appearances that season, but the highlight came in the F.A. Cup in which York reached the 5th Round and took Liverpool to extra time in an Anfield replay.

He only missed 2 games during the 1986-87 season and was again a regular last season but John Rudge stepped in to pay £35,000 for his services in December, 1987, one of the highest fees ever paid by the Vale for a player. His debut was in the 1-1 draw with Northampton here at Vale Park on Boxing Day and he scored in 3 consecutive games, all away a month later with the last goal securing a 3-2 victory at his old club, York.

### CUP-TIED

It was a bit of an in and out sort of start for Simon, as through being cup-tied he was forced to sit out our F.A. Cup run to the 5th Round, but his total record of 5 goals in 19 games spoke for itself. This season he stepped into the breach as an emergency right back but he has turned in some excellent performances in that role as if he has played there all his life.

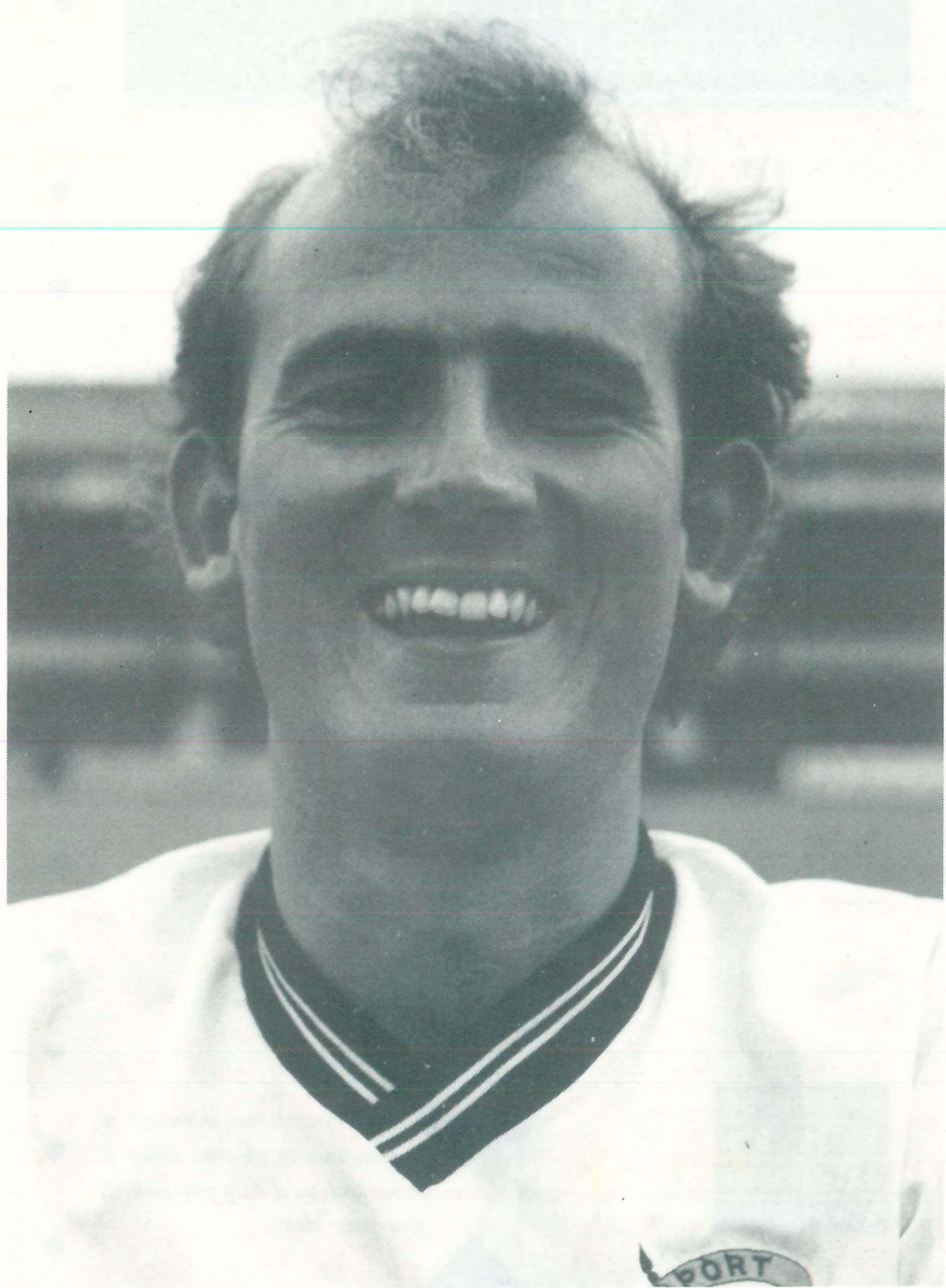
### CAREER RECORD TO DATE

	<b>Games</b>	<b>Goals</b>
Sheffield Wednesday ..	2 + 4	—
York City .....	122 + 2	9
Port Vale .....	29	5
	<b>153 + 6</b>	<b>14</b>

*Photos by Bill Bache*



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# AWAY DAY

## BLACKPOOL v. PORT VALE

*Barclays League Division Three*

**Saturday, 22nd October, 1988**

**Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**

**B**lackpool is noted for fresh air, invariably gale force, fun-parks, beaches, piers, theatres, illuminations and England's small-scale imitation of Eiffel's 'real thing' in Paris. Brash Blackpool may be, but there is nothing ostentatious about Bloomfield Road, which is strictly functional. Its architecture however, though plain, is well-defined and its tidiness is exemplary. Sitting in the refurbished South Stand behind the goal, you will see the Tower rising in the distance above the tall, open terracing opposite, known as the Kop. More seating is available in the presentable West Stand, but there is standing only to your right in the neatly covered East Paddock. Two things are unusual at Bloomfield Road: both ends of the stadium are tall compared with the sides and the players emerge on to the pitch from behind the goal, which is extremely uncommon.

Enjoy the match and mind how you go!

MALCOLM HOWE.

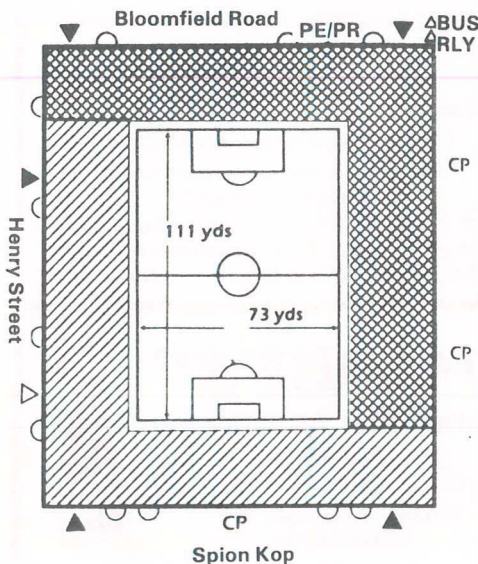
### REVIEW ROAD ROUTE

Take the M6 North to junction 32 and then join the M55 straight to Blackpool. At the end of the motorway join the A583 and in 2 miles turn left at the traffic lights into Waterloo Road. (SP South Shore). In 0.7 mile turn right into Central Drive and then take the 3rd turning on the left into Bloomfield Road for Blackpool F.C. (85 miles).

Please allow extra time for your journey due to illuminations traffic making the motorways congested.

Standing accommodation is available for Vale fans at the open Spion Kop end of the ground where admission costs £3.50 for adults and £2.50 for juveniles. Seats are also available at £5.00 each.

Those supporters wishing to stand are advised to arrive early at the ground because our expected enormous following is likely to produce queues at the turnstiles rather like Preston and Wolves.



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The Football Trust receives £9 million annually from the Spotting the Ball competition run by Littlewoods. Vernons and Zeffers spends it all on projects which benefit football throughout the United Kingdom

Since 1979 it has been committed to the development of the game at every level and its broad and varying initiatives have ranged from essential safety work at Tottenham to social work at Tordeth; refurbishment at Wembley to repairs at Welling; closed circuit television at all League clubs to community facilities at Oldham Athletic; transport improvements at Sheffield Wednesday to storm damage in the South East of England; from policing costs at Hull City to an artificial pitch at Hyde United

1988-89 will see The Football Trust increase its commitment by investing further sums in closed circuit television, transport facilities for supporters and projects to bring Football League clubs closer to their local community.

## WARNING

At the beginning of the season more than 110 League grounds in England, Wales and Scotland will be equipped with **CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION** which has been funded by The Football Trust

It is there to increase crowd safety and to help the police. Recording facilities enable film and photographs to be taken of disorder, which may subsequently be used in a court of law

## CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION

## SAFETY FIRST

Football grounds in England and Wales have reached their highest ever level of safety thanks to the £23 671 425 invested by the Football Grounds Improvement Trust since 1975

Almost every League club has been assisted with essential safety work and further substantial sums have been spent to enable them to improve facilities. In the past year alone FGIT grants to Football League clubs totalled

	£
Safety	2 254 723
Improvements	770 561

In addition to its safety programme, FGIT has also allocated £1 5 million to build or improve family and disabled facilities at League grounds during 1989



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# CLUB, COMMUNITY AND YOU

Hi Readers,

**S**O here we are again. We still have 4 places for coaches on our Employment Training Scheme, this involves travelling around to various local schools, coaching the pupils in football, rounders and netball, etc. There is also opportunities to study in many different subjects under this scheme. If you are interested in one of these vacancies, then give me a ring at the club on 575594 or call in at your local job centre for more information. Our admin. post is no longer vacant, as Leigh who had been offered a full-time job, decided not to leave us after all.

As I told you last time, we had been invited to the Police S.P.A.C.E. scheme social evenings at Hanley and Biddulph. I went along to the one at Hanley a

couple of weeks back. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Biddulph evening, although it was attended by Leigh and her boyfriend on my behalf. They reported back an enjoyable evening that was well attended by all the contributors to the Biddulph S.P.A.C.E. scheme. We look forward to helping out at next years events.

We are at present trying to arrange a local sports quiz, hopefully some time just before Christmas. Also we would like to try and get our tea-dances off the ground, giving the local senior citizens an afternoon out.

Well there's little else to tell you this week,  
Yours in Sport,  
ALEX WILLIAMS

## JUNIOR VALIANTS NEWS

**H**I, Junior Valiants  
We would like to extend a warm welcome to the Junior Whites of Bolton who played our under 12's and under 10's before this afternoon's game. We hope you enjoy your day at Vale Park.

Two weeks ago the J.V.'s were the guests of the Junior Wolves and we played two games against them, under 16's and under 13's. The former lost heavily whilst the under 13's were beaten 2-0. After we all went into the Family Enclosure to watch the main game where we were joined by Bob Hazell, Tevor Wood and Wayne Simpson, and we all enjoyed the day.

Last Saturday we took a party to Wigan where we had another good day out and it was nice to see the Junior Latics page of the programme extend a warm welcome to the Junior Valeites.

### BLACKPOOL TRIP

Next Saturday, 22nd October we are running a

trip to Blackpool that also includes a tour of the illuminations after the game. The coach fare is £4 for J.V.'s and £5 for adults and departs from Hamil Road car park at 9 a.m. returning at approximately 11.30 p.m. Please book early to avoid disappointment by telephoning Mr. Bulger on 813871 as this trip was well supported last season.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING J.V.'s

10th Oct. - New member Craig Hill aged 9, 14th Oct. - Julian Mottram aged 14, 15th Oct. - Matthew Wood aged 5.

If you would like to join the Junior Valiants then please contact Mr. Bulger at 82 Catherine Road, Chell Heath, Stoke-on-Trent ST6 6PT. It only costs £2 per season and please make any cheques or postal orders payable to the Junior valiants.

Don't forget that all J.V.'s get a 10% discount in the club shop and a birthday card signed by all the players. Membership is currently 148.

## Competition Winner



Congratulations are in order for Junior Valiant's member Paul Pointon (left) who has won a competition to meet Bryan Robson and take part in a training session coached by him.

On Thursday, 27th October he will be taken to Old Trafford along with two adults where he will have lunch with Bryan Robson before being taken on a guided tour of the ground and finally take part in a training session under Bryan's command.

Everyone at the Vale hopes he will have a memorable day.

AB MINOLTA



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## *The Greatest Team I Ever Saw*

*by Dave Tellwright*

First of all, before I explain the reasons for my selected line-up, I will give you my team, in a 4-2-4 formation.

1 Mark Grew			
2 Clinton Boulton	5 Bob Hazell	6 Roy Sproson	3 Darren Hughes
4 Ray Walker			
8 Brian Horton (Capt)			
7 Peter Sutcliffe	9 Andy Jones	10 John Woodward	11 Mark Chamberlain
12 Ernie Moss		13 Terry Lees	

**M**Y choice for goalkeeper, Mark Grew earns his place, not because I sponsor his kit, but because he has had to win over the fans because of his boob in the pre-season game against Stoke a couple of years ago which led to a goal, and he has since proved what an excellent keeper he really is. My two full backs have been picked because they are both excellent defenders and also very good at going forward and supporting the forwards. Roy Sproson doesn't need any explanation as to why he is in the team, while my reason for picking Bob Hazell is that he always gives 100% and that he commands the defence superbly, (who would argue with him anyway). Brian Horton and Ray Walker are two of the best midfielders that I have seen outside the First Division, and Brian is also my automatic choice for Captain. Peter Sutcliffe is one of the most tricky wingers I have seen in the lower divisions and was very popular with the Vale fans as he often led defenders a merry dance. Possibly the fastest winger seen at Vale Park is my other winger, Mark Chamberlain, he was also very skilful and it was a great pity when he was sold to Stoke for what can be described as peanuts compared with today's fees. I think Andy Jones would get into anyone's team after his

goal scoring exploits in his short time at Vale Park, my choice of John Woodward as his partner is because he was a very clever front player and I think they would make an excellent strike force. My two subs are firstly, Ernie Moss, who always gave his all, and often popped up to score vital goals, and second, Terry Lees, a versatile player who did an excellent job in midfield and in defence when needed. My team is made up of players who have appeared for vale from 1969 to the present day, with no less than 4 of today's players selected.



ROY SPROSON

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The Editor, Port Vale F.C. Programme, Vale Park, Hamil Road, Burslem, S-o-T.



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## FLASHBACK - *Thirty Years Ago*

**O**N the 18th October, 1958 the Vale were chasing promotion to Division Three and took their unbeaten away record to Holker Street, the home of Barrow.

Winger Brian Jackson returned to the side after missing seven games with a broken foot in place of Peter Hall but it was Barrow doing the early attacking and Albert Leake was forced to clear off the line in the 13th minute. Four minutes later Barrow took the lead and Vale were indebted to their 'keeper Keith Jones for keeping the score down.

### LAST MINUTE WINNER

When the Vale finally began to put their game together John Wilkinson equalised with a header eight minutes before the interval but Barrow once again called the tune in the second half.

They couldn't pierce the Vale defence though and with just one minute left Dickie

Cunliffe broke away to score the winning goal to place us third in the Fourth Division table.

The Vale team was:- Jones, Pritchard, Martin, Kinsey, Leake, Miles, Jackson, Poole, Wilkinson, Steele, Cunliffe.

### HOME STRUGGLE AGAIN

The following Saturday it was back to Vale Park when Carlisle were the visitors. Noel Kinsey had a foot injury and he was replaced by Selwyn Whalley in the Vale's only team change as they aimed for their first Saturday home victory.

Once again they struggled for a breakthrough and disaster loomed on the hour when Carlisle went in front. With only four minutes to go, the Vale were awarded a penalty for handball which John Wilkinson gleefully slammed home to salvage a draw.

Right on the final whistle the same player headed the ball in via the post but the referee had already blown for time. This result left the Vale still third in the league, just 1pt behind the leaders York.



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League Division 3		F.A.	GATE	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14											
DATE	OPPONENTS			Home games in Bold											
Aug.	27 Preston North End .....	3-1	6718	Grew	Mills	Webb	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Sept.	30 Chester City (L.C.C. 1) .....	3-2	3492	Grew	Mills	Webb	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	3 Chesterfield (L.C.C. 1) .....	1-2	4213	Grew	Webb	Webb	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Oct.	10 Burnley .....	0-0	2978	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	17 Cardiff City .....	0-1	4489	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Oct.	19 Chesterfield .....	5-0	4280	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Hazell	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	24 Bristol City .....	1-0	7235	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Nov.	2 Ipswich T. (L.C.C. 2) .....	3-3	1545	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	3 Wolverhampton Wand. ....	2-0	1545	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Nov.	6 Wigan Athletic .....	3-0	5938	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	11 Ipswich T. (L.C.C. 2) .....	2-0	3976	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Nov.	15 Bolton Wand. ....	0-3	8869	Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	22 Blackpool .....	2-2		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Dec.	29 Sheffield United .....	1-0		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	5 Aldershot .....	5		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Dec.	8 Northampton Town .....	8		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	12 Swansea City .....	12		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Jan. 1989	15 F.A. Cup 1 .....	26		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	26 Southampton .....	30		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Feb.	14 Reading .....	17		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	17 Mansfield Town .....	26		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Mar.	20 Notts County .....	2		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	14 Chester City .....	14		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
Apr.	18 L.C.C. 5 .....	28		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	28 Cardiff C. (F.A. 4) .....	28		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	4 Wolverhampton Wand. ....	4		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	11 Huddersfield Town .....	11		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	15 L.C.C. 1st Semi-Final .....	15		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	18 Wigan Ath. (F.A. 5) .....	18		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	22 L.C.C. 2nd Semi-Final .....	22		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	25 Bolton Wanders .....	25		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	28 Sheffield United .....	28		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	4 Blackpool .....	4		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	11 Aldershot .....	11		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	13 Brentford .....	13		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	16 Notts County .....	16		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	25 Mansfield Town .....	25		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	27 Reading .....	27		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	5 Bristol Rovers .....	5		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	9 Charlton .....	9		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	15 Chesterfield (F.A. SF) .....	15		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	21 Bristol City .....	21		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	29 Swansea City .....	29		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	1 Northampton Town .....	1		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	15 Southend United .....	15		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
May	18 Ipswich T. (F.A. Final) .....	18		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley
	20 F.A. Cup Final .....	20		Grew	Webb	Hughes	Walker	Mills	Sproson	Ford	Earle	Futcher	Beckford	Atkinson	Riley



## TODAY'S MASCOT PAUL DAVENPORT

**P**AUL lives in Rode Heath and attends Rode Heath C.P. School. His hobbies are Football, Walking and most games and he is a member of the Junior Valiants. His favourite players are Darren Beckford and Phil Sproson.

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Home Fixtures in **Bold**. Port Vale score first.

Name in **BOLD** = Scorer (1) Figure = Number of goals \*Own Goal •Denotes substitute player used.



# STATS

## BARCLAYS LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Port Vale	9	6	2	1	23	7	20
Sheffield United	8	6	0	2	24	8	28
Bolton W.	9	4	3	2	16	9	15
Wolves	8	4	3	2	17	13	15
Mansfield T.	8	3	5	0	10	6	14
Fulham	9	4	2	3	15	13	14
Brentford	9	4	2	3	13	11	14
Chester C.	8	4	2	2	15	15	14
Swansea	8	4	2	2	11	11	14
Northampton T.	9	4	1	4	15	13	13
Reading	9	4	1	4	14	13	13
Huddersfield T.	9	3	3	3	11	11	12
Bristol City	9	3	3	3	14	16	12
Bristol Rovers	9	2	5	2	9	7	11
Notts County	8	3	2	3	8	7	11
Bury	8	3	2	3	8	7	11
Preston N.E.	9	2	4	3	12	11	10
Blackpool	8	2	3	3	10	11	9
Wigan Ath.	8	2	1	5	7	9	7
Gillingham	9	1	3	5	7	17	6
Southend	9	2	0	7	4	24	6
Chesterfield	9	1	2	4	8	16	5
Cardiff	9	1	2	2	6	8	20
Aldershot	9	1	2	2	6	8	20

## NEXT AT VALE PARK

**Monday, 24th October**  
Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

*Barclay's League Division 3*

# SHEFFIELD UNITED

## DIVISION 3

**Biggest Home Win:**  
North m 6 Aldershot o (1st Oct.)

**Biggest Away Win:**  
Bristol C. 1 Fulham 5 (8th Oct.)

**Highest Attendance:**  
14,272 Sheff. U. v Wolves (8th Oct.)

**Lowest Attendance:**  
1,527 Aldershot v Wigan (4th Oct.)

## Leading Scorers

(including League and Littlewoods Cup)

	Total
T. Agana (Sheff. Utd.)	10
B. Deane (Sheff. Utd.)	9
T. Adcock (Northampton)	8
S. Bull (Wolves)	7
S. Lovell (Gillingham)	7
G. Penrice (Bristol R.)	7
C. Maskell (Huddersfield)	7
A. Sayer (Fulham)	7

On the transfer front Reading have sold striker Colin Gordon to Fulham for £90,000 to make way for the expected return of Trevor Senior from Middlesbrough and Blackpool have loaned goal-keeper Gary Kelly from Newcastle. Fulham were also in the news last week for winning the Barclays Performance of the Week Award for their 5-1 victory at Bristol City. A local 'Boys' Club will benefit to the tune of £650.

## CENTRAL LEAGUE DIVISION 2

Aug. 31	Stoke City	.....	A	1-1
Sept. 7	Scunthorpe Utd.	.....	A	1-1
13	Preston N.E.	.....	A	2-1
20	Mansfield T.	.....	H	1-0
28	Doncaster Rov.	.....	H	4-0
Oct. 5	Wigan Ath.	.....	A	2-3
12	Darlington	.....	A	
19	Bolton Wand.	.....	A	
Nov. 9	Birmingham Utd.	.....	H	
16	Middlesbrough	.....	A	
22	York C.	.....	H	
29	Bradford C.	.....	H	
Dec. 6	Grimsey T.	.....	A	
13	Hull C.	.....	H	
20	Notts Co.	.....	A	
27	Oldham Ath.	.....	H	
Jan. 3	Scunthorpe Utd.	.....	A	
10	Stoke City	.....	H	
17	Grimsey T.	.....	A	
24	Blackpool	.....	H	
31	Doncaster Rov.	.....	A	
Feb. 7	Wigan Ath.	.....	H	
14	Bolton Wand.	.....	A	
21	Darlington	.....	H	
28	Middlesbrough	.....	A	
Mar. 6	Rotherham Utd.	.....	H	
13	Mansfield T.	.....	A	
20	Notts Co.	.....	H	
27	Preston N.E.	.....	H	
Apr. 3	Oldham Ath.	.....	H	
10	Hull C.	.....	A	
17	York C.	.....	H	
24	Bradford C.	.....	A	
May 1	Blackpool	.....	A	

*Today's*

*Other*

*Fixtures*

## MIDLAND PURITY YOUTH LEAGUE

Aug. 27	Nottm For.	.....	H	P-P
Sept. 3	Peterborough Utd.	.....	H	4-0
10	Shrewsbury	.....	A	3-4
17	Stoke C.	.....	A	1-2
24	Walsall	.....	H	3-2
Oct. 1	West Brom. A.	.....	H	2-2
8	Wolves	.....	H	
15	Aston Villa	.....	A	
22	Birmingham C.	.....	H	
29	Aston Villa LCI	.....	H	
Nov. 5	Coventry C.	.....	H	
12	Derby Co.	.....	A	
19	Leicester C.	.....	H	
26	Mansfield T.	.....	A	
Dec. 3	Notts Co.	.....	H	
10	Nottm For.	.....	H	
17	Shrewsbury T.	.....	H	
24	Wolves	.....	A	
31	Stoke C.	.....	H	
Feb. 7	Walsall	.....	A	
14	West Brom. A.	.....	H	
21	Derby Co.	.....	A	
28	Birmingham C.	.....	H	
Mar. 6	Leicester C.	.....	A	
13	Mansfield T.	.....	H	
20	Coventry C.	.....	H	
27	Aston Villa	.....	H	
Apr. 3	Peterborough Utd.	.....	A	

Blackpool v Sheffield Utd.  
Bristol R. v Notts Co.  
Bury v Brentford  
Chester C. v Cardiff C.  
Chesterfield v Preston N.E.  
Fulham v Aldershot  
Huddersfield T. v Bristol C.  
Reading v Mansfield T.  
Southend Utd. v Gillingham  
Swansea C. v Northampton T.  
Wolves v Wigan A.

# NEWSBEAT

## TOP OF THE LEAGUE

It's a great feeling to be top of the league and apart from one day spells at the top both last season and earlier this season, this current run is the longest we have led the way in the Third Division since September, 1972.

That stay lasted exactly two weeks at the end of which we lost 2-0 at Walsall (where else?) and by the end of the season we finished in 6th place.

## SHERPA VAN TROPHY

In the preliminary round of this seasons competition we have been grouped alongside Hereford United and Wolves, who are of course the holders.

The provisional dates for our two games are as follows:

Monday, 21st November  
**Port Vale v Hereford United**  
Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, 13th December  
**Wolves v Port Vale**  
Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Hereford play Wolves in between our two fixtures. Two teams qualify for the first round with the group winners being guaranteed a home draw.

## NEWS OF THE WORLD FOOTBALL ANNUAL 1988-89

The 102nd edition of the News of the World Football Annual is now available at all leading bookshops priced £2.75. It contains 384 fact filled pages with its usual comprehensive coverage of both league and international football, including a diary of last season, complete playing staffs for 1988-89 of all English and Scottish League clubs and all the fixtures for this season.

## BIRTHDAY BOYS

Birthday greetings are in order for Darren Hughes, who was 23 on the 6th October, Phil Sproson who was 29 last Thursday and Kevin Finney who will be 19 on Wednesday.

## PROGRAMME WANTED

If you have a copy of the Newport v Port Vale (Freight Rover Trophy) programme from the 1987-88 season for sale, then please contact John Smith, 28 Forrest Avenue, Essington, Wolverhampton WV11 2AJ (Tel. 0922-406383. He is willing to pay a good price for a copy in good condition.

## PROGRAMME FAIR

The Annual Port Vale Programme Fair will take place in the Valiants club, tomorrow, Sunday, 16th October, between 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

There will be thousands of clubs from the present day back to the 1920's. Admission is just 20p.

## CHRIS MASKERY TESTIMONIAL

On this Tuesday, 18th October, the Vale are providing the opposition for Stoke City in aid of Chris Maskery's testimonial fund. The game will take place at the Victoria Ground and kicks off at 7.30 p.m.

## ANTHONY NIXON

It is with deepest sadness that we report the death of Vale fan Anthony Nixon, aged 17 of Werrington. A Muscular Dystrophy sufferer, he sadly suffered a heart attack as he was due to leave for our last home game v Huddersfield.

Our sincere condolences are extended to his family.

\* \*

## DID YOU KNOW:

—That Vale Park is the second highest football league ground above sea level? West Brom is the highest.

—That last season the vale had more season ticket holders then Second Division Champions Millwall? They had 800 whilst we had almost 1,000.

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We are sorry to hear that former Vale player BASIL HAYWARD is seriously ill in hospital. Best wishes for a speedy recovery from the Board of Directors and all at Vale Park.





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# TEAM CHECK

## PORT VALE

Colours: White and Black

### MARK GREW

Excellent goalkeeper who has kept 5 clean sheets so far this season. Was injured for our last home game

### ALAN WEBB

After beginning the season at both right and left back he has now settled in the centre of the back four

### DARREN HUGHES

Highly rated left back whose speed has done much to stem the flow of opposing right wing attacks

### RAY WALKER

Classy midfielder player who has an array of passing skills and has 2 goal so far this season

### SIMON MILLS

Began the season as an emergency full back but has since turned in some excellent performances in that role

### PHIL SPROSON

Rock solid central defender who seems to improve every performance and has 3 goals so far this season

### GARY FORD

Hard working right sided midfielder whose 3 goals so far include a cracking free-kick against Huddersfield

### ROBBIE EARLE

Dynamic midfielder whose 5 goals this season include a brilliant header during our win at Wigan last week

### RON FUTCHER

Experienced striker who leads the line tremendously well and has 6 goals so far this season

### DARREN BECKFORD

Much improved striker whose 6 goals so far are an excellent reward for his determination & strong running

### DAVID RILEY

Has performed admirably in his unaccustomed role on the left hand side of midfield supporting the front two

### BOB HAZELL

Tough central defender easing his way back from injury after missing the last five league games

### KEVIN FINNEY

Local youngster with a bright future who proved to be a capable deputy for Ray Walker twice recently

## BOLTON WANDERERS

Colours: Red and White

### 1 DAVID FELGATE

Former Welsh international who was an ever present last season & won the club's Player of the Year award

### 2 PHIL BROWN

Cost £17,000 from Halifax last summer, for whom he scored 14 goals in 1986/87, a record for a full-back

### 3 DEAN CROMBIE

Experienced full back signed at the beginning of last season from Grimsby for whom he made over 350 apps

### 4 ROBBIE SAVAGE

Signed from Bradford City in Sept. 1987 for £30,000 and scored the goal that won promotion last season.

### 5 GLENN KEELEY

Experienced centre-half who has played for Blackburn, Newcastle, Everton & Oldham. Joined Bolton in Sept.

### 6 MARK WINSTANLEY

Solid central defender who graduated through the club's YTS ranks to make his debut in March 1986

### 7 GARY HENSHAW

Made 31 apps last season after his arrival from Grimsby, his only previous league club

### 8 STEVE THOMPSON

Longest serving player who made his debut back in 1982 and leads this season's goalscoring charts with 4

### 9 TREVOR MORGAN

Strong centre forward signed at the start of last season from Bristol C. and scored after only 42 secs last week

### 10 IAN STEVENS

Promising youngster who was the leading scorer for the reserve side last season with 16 goals

### 11 JULIAN DARBY

Local born player who progressed through the club's junior ranks to make his debut in March 1986

### 12 JOHN THOMAS

Consistent goalscorer now in his second spell at Bolton who notched 22 league goals last season

### 14 NICKY BROOKMAN

Scored 6 times in 26 apps last season from a midfield role and has a very promising future

REFEREE: R.L. HAMER (Bristol)

A self employed newsagent who is married with three children, he commenced refereeing in 1966 and progressed via the Western League, Football Combination and Gola League on to the League list in 1985. He has run the line in two F.A. Cup Semi-finals and lists most sports amongst his hobbies besides being a church administrator.

LINESMEN: B.T. MILLERSHIP (Yellow Flag)

V.D. RENNIE (Yellow Flag with Red Trim)

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